

ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



ARKANSAS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

10800 Financial Centre Parkway
Suite 110
Little Rock, AR 72211
Phone: (501) 228-9926
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/ar/>

ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS DOWN 6 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 23.3 million during the week ending December 13, 2003. Placements were down 6 percent from the comparable week in 2002, but up 2 percent from the revised previous week, and included 2.3 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through December 13, 2003 were 1.21 billion, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

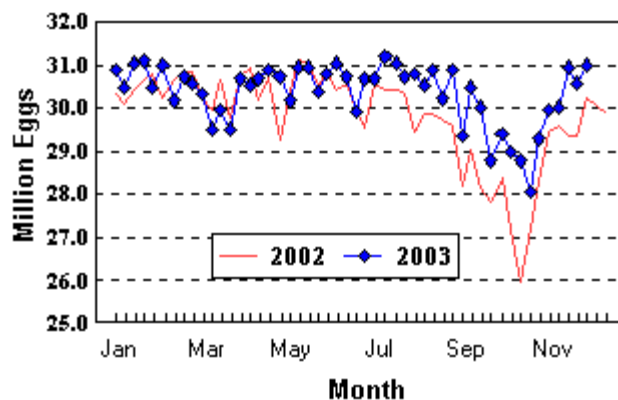
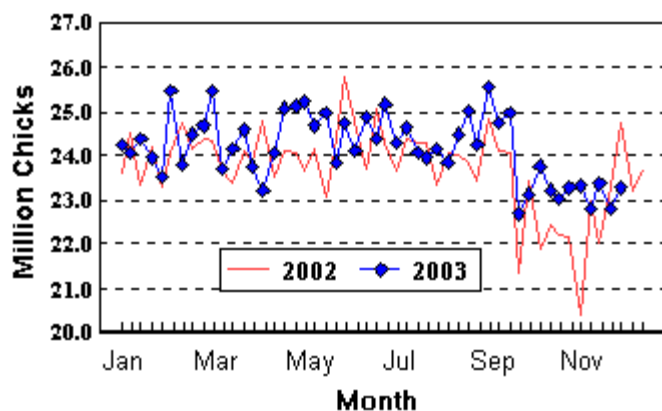
The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 25.1 million, up 3 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, and up 1 percent from the revised previous week. Of the total hatch, 3.8 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 83.8 percent.

Arkansas hatcheries set 31.0 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending December 13, 2003, up 2 percent from the same period last year, and up 1 percent from the revised previous week.

Week Ending	NET PLACEMENTS			CHICKS HATCHED			EGGS SET		
	2002	2003	% Change	2002	2003	% Change	2002	2003	% Change
	<i>1,000</i>			<i>1,000</i>			<i>1,000</i>		
Nov. 8	22,150	23,263	105	22,589	24,131	107	28,284	29,304	104
Nov. 15	20,431	23,335	114	21,561	23,971	111	29,457	29,978	102
Nov. 22	22,968	22,777	99	22,459	23,123	103	29,624	29,996	101
Nov. 29	21,996	23,381	106	23,319	24,188	104	29,362	30,923	105
Dec. 6	23,291	22,786	98	24,209	24,832	103	29,336	30,571	104
Dec. 13	24,762	23,280	94	24,415	25,142	103	30,240	30,992	102

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2002-2003

EGGS SET, 2002 - 2003



BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2003

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/ %	Week Ending						1/ %
	22-Nov	29-Nov	06-Dec	13-Dec		08-Nov	15-Nov	22-Nov	29-Nov	06-Dec	13-Dec	
Alabama	28,630 *	29,276	29,379	29,560	105	19,712	20,197	19,326	21,133	21,822	21,878	102
ARKANSAS	29,996	30,923 *	30,571 *	30,992	102	23,263	23,335	22,777	23,381	22,786 *	23,280	94
Delaware	3,546	3,785	3,828	3,805	112	4,836	4,306	4,901	5,638	4,892	4,689	92
Florida	1,352	1,352	1,354	1,354	85	1,525	1,664	1,548 *	1,809	1,644 *	1,420	84
Georgia	31,862	32,964	31,664 *	33,269	109	23,856	22,525	23,264 *	25,001 *	25,137 *	24,645	99
Kentucky	6,884 *	6,895	6,965	6,768	109	4,893	5,174 *	5,219 *	5,051 *	5,432 *	5,849	103
Maryland	8,752	8,753	8,763	8,868	89	4,490	5,270	5,636	5,188	5,299	5,942	108
Mississippi	18,571 *	19,027	19,237	19,396	103	14,254	15,291	14,292	15,146	15,738	15,804	103
N. Carolina	17,986 *	18,104	16,791	17,881	97	13,270	14,247	13,844	14,175	14,550	14,383	100
Oklahoma	6,391	6,312	6,358	6,371	102	5,143	4,374	4,255	4,476	5,858	5,512	139
Pennsylvania	3,845 *	3,841 *	3,723 *	3,627	97	2,301 *	2,421 *	2,496 *	2,674 *	2,619 *	2,771	106
S. Carolina	3,618	3,940	3,794	3,861	83	3,262	3,342	4,325	4,294	4,273	3,842	119
Texas	14,779	14,854	14,151	13,879	92	10,645	10,738	11,887	12,276	12,030	12,292	102
Virginia	6,622	6,622	6,438	6,349	102	5,168	5,629	4,953	4,527	5,822	5,285	101
CA,LA,MO,TN,WV	21,158 *	21,440	20,654 *	20,438	103	17,220	17,217	17,971	19,141	19,868 *	19,188	109
Total 2003	203,992 *	208,088 *	203,670 *	206,418		153,838 *	155,730 *	156,694 *	163,910 *	167,770 *	166,780	
Total 2002	200,518	202,537	199,994	203,251		151,790	147,970	154,972	161,690	161,841	163,147	
%Prev. Year	102	103	102	102		101	105	101	101	104	102	
Approximate Marketing Date 2003-2004.....						27-Dec	03-Jan	10-Jan	17-Jan	24-Jan	31-Jan	

* Revised. 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 2 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 206 million eggs during the week ending December 13, 2003. This was up 2 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 167 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 13, 2003. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through December 13, 2003 were 8.31 billion, down slightly from the same period a year earlier.